

A2 [Please replace pending claim 4 with the following claim 4:]

4. (once amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising contacting the organ, tissue or cells with a growth factor or cytokine.

A3 Please replace pending claim 6 with the following claim 6:

6. (once amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said growth factor or cytokine is b-FGF, PDGF, TNF- α , IL-1, IL-6 or VEGF.

Please replace pending claim 8 with the following claim 8:

8. (once amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the TGF β 1 is a derivative or functionally equivalent substance.

~~A4~~ [Please replace pending claim 9 with the following claim 9:]

9. (once amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said derivative or functionally equivalent substance is an antibody, (poly)peptide, nucleic acid, small organic compound, ligand, hormone, PNA or peptidomimetic.

[Please replace pending claim 10 with the following claim 10:]

10. (once amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said method is applied to a subject suffering from a vascular disease or a cardiac infarct or a stroke.

[Please replace pending claim 11 with the following claim 11:]

11. (once amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said vascular disease is arteriosclerosis and/or a hyperlipidemic condition, a coronary artery disease, cerebral occlusive disease, peripheral occlusive disease, visceral occlusive disease, renal artery disease, mesenterial arterial insufficiency or an ophthalmic or retinal occlusion.

at [Please replace pending claim 12 with the following claim 12:]

12. (once amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said method is applied to a subject during or after exposure to an agent or radiation or surgical treatment which damage or destroy arteries.

[Please replace pending claim 13 with the following claim 13:]

13. (once amended) A method for the treatment of tumors comprising contacting an organ, tissue or cells with an agent which suppresses arteriogenesis and/or the growth of collateral arteries and/or other arteries from preexisting arteriolar connections through inhibition of the biological activity of TGF β 1.

Please replace pending claim 15 with the following claim 15:

05 15. (once amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the agent inhibits the biological activity of TGF β 1 and/or inhibits an intracellular signal or signal cascade comprising SMAD proteins triggered in macrophages through the receptor for TGF β 1.

[Please replace pending claim 16 with the following claim 16:]

16. (once amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the agent blocks an interaction of the TGF β 1 and its receptor.

[Please replace pending claim 17 with the following claim 17:]

17. (once amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the agent is derived from a class of substances selected from the group consisting of: an antibody, (poly)peptide, nucleic acid, small organic compound, ligand, hormone, PNA and peptidomimetic.

[Please replace pending claim 18 with the following claim 18:]

18. (once amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the agent is expressed in vascular cells or cells surrounding preexisting arteriolar connections to a tumor.

[Please replace pending claim 19 with the following claim 19:]



19. (once amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the tumor is a vascular tumor.

[Please replace pending claim 20 with the following claim 20:]

20. (once amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the tumor is selected from the group consisting of: Colon Carcinoma, Sarcoma, Carcinoma in the breast, Carcinoma in the head/neck, Mesothelioma, Glioblastoma, Lymphoma and Meningeoma.

Please add the following new claims:

22. (new) A method for enhancing arteriogenesis and/or the growth of collateral arteries and/or other arteries from preexisting arteriolar connections comprising:

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- (a) obtaining cells, tissue or an organ from a subject;
 - (b) introducing a nucleic acid molecule encoding and capable of expressing TGF β 1 *in vivo* into said cells, tissue or organ; and
 - (c) reintroducing the cells, tissue or organ obtained in (b) into the same subject or a different subject.
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23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is reintroduced by intracoronary, intramuscular, intraarterial, intravenous, intraperitoneal or subcutaneous route.